

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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June 21, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# **ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29

June 21, 2011

SACHI A. Hamau SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION
APPEALS BOARD IN THE UNINCORPORATED
AREAS OF FLORENCE AND LOS ANGELES
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1)
(3 VOTES)

#### SUBJECT

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

6021 Whittier Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90022 1654 East 68th Street, Florence, California 90001

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

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# **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owners. Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Building Code provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before your Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

ADDRESS: 6021 Whittier Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90022

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 23, 2011, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, discarded machinery, miscellaneous personal property, and all overgrown vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by June 23, 2011, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

#### List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.

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- 2. Overgrown vegetation, dead trees, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance or a danger to public safety and welfare.
- 3. Attractive nuisances dangerous to children in the form of abandoned or broken equipment, neglected machinery, refrigerators, and freezers.
- 4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 5. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 1654 East 68th Street, Florence, California 90001

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 23, 2011, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all overgrown vegetation, if substantial progress, extend to July 25, 2011, and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by June 23, 2011, the structure (s) be repaired per noted defects, rebuilt to Code, or demolished, if substantial progress, extend to July 25, 2011, and (c) that the structure(s) be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. The building contains fire damaged floor supports or foundation systems.
- 3. Portion of the walls are fire damaged.
- 4. Doors and windows are broken.
- 5. The building contains fire damaged ceiling, roof supports, or systems.
- 6. Electrical system is fire damaged or potentially hazardous.
- 7. The potable water system of the dwelling is fire damaged.
- 8. The water heater, lavatory, bath facility, kitchen sink, laundry tray, or standpipe of the dwelling is inoperable, fire damaged, or insanitary.
- 9. The building contains fire damaged drain, waster, and vent systems.
- 10. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

The interior of the building was not readily accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Not applicable.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

**GAIL FARBER** 

Director

GF:RP:nm

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel

Hail Farher

**Executive Office**